

CENTER SCENE



The Bureau of Land Management Service Center Newsletter

April 1988

WELCOME



Front row: Mike Marchase, Terri Jeffries. Back row: Bonnie Stewart, Paul Christensen, Vicki Smejkal.

Over the past eight months, the Division of Technical Services has acquired eight new employees, with skills ranging from the clerical field to the technical and professional areas.

Frank Ciesel joined the Branch of Building Engineering as an architect in January, coming from the Bureau of Reclamation where he worked for 5 years.

Paul Christensen, a cartographer with the Branch of Cartography, came to the Bureau in October from the Defense Mapping Agency in St. Louis, Missouri, where he worked for 3 years.

Terri Jeffries joined the Division in October, where she acted as Division secretary until January. Terri now spends most of her time in Engineering Services, managing the clerical aspects of the group. Before joining the Division, she was a computer clerk with the Department of the Army, Ft. Hood, Texas, and had previously worked for the VA Denver Regional Office for 4 years.

Mike Marchase has been a cartographer in the Photogrammetry Branch since December. Mike came to us from the Colorado State Office where he worked for 4 years; before that, he spent 5 years as a survey technician for the Park Service.

Bonnie Stewart arrived in January from the National Marine Fisheries Service in St. Petersburg, Florida, and is the Division secretary. Bonnie was the Regional Director's secretary at Fisheries and had been with that agency for 14 years. Her government career includes positions with the VA Regional Office in St. Petersburg; the Department of the Army on Okinawa; the Naval Research Lab and the FBI in Washington, D.C.

Vicki Smejkal started with the Division in July as a supply technician for the cadastral survey cache. Vicki previously worked in Hawaii for the Departments of Army and Navy in supply and procurement. Vicki also served 10 years in the U.S. Army.

Connie Slusser has been with the Branch of Engineering Services since August. As a photographic technician and computer operator, she runs the plotter, sets up the data base for training files, and helps as the technician for Foto-Tek.

Jill Gaston is the newest member of the group. She started March 14 as a clerk-typist with the Branch of Micrographics. Jill previously worked for the Nelson Caulsen Company in their payroll section. She worked briefly at Ft. Knox, Kentucky as a supply clerk.

SLMS Pickin's

The Bureau's Solid Leasable Minerals System (SLMS) was implemented in October 1985. SLMS is an outgrowth of informational needs of WO-650 and 660. Both offices previously operated separate automated systems, developed in the late 1970s. Following the MMS-BLM merger in 1983, these two systems, ACLDS (Automated Coal Lease Data System) and AFILMS (Automated Federal and Indian Leasable Minerals System), merged into the current SLMS Phase I.

Since SLMS Phase I became operational, the Denver Service Center (D-223 and D-470) has worked closely with WO-660, the principal program office behind SLMS, and the 40 SLMS field offices. Efforts by people from these offices have helped resolve system deficiencies and define Phase II system requirements.

A frequent field office complaint about Phase I was lack of field input into the design process. As a result, a SLMS Subgroup consisting of solid mineral professionals from various BLM offices was formed. These Subgroup Representatives and many other field office employees have participated in SLMS Phase II meetings and discussions.

The SC briefed the Washington Office in August 1986 on the results of these meetings. At that time, a number of alternatives to substantially improve SLMS were formulated and presented.

Life Cycle Management documentation was drafted by the SC in December 1986. In June 1987, Washington provided approval to begin limited prototype SLMS Phase II development. Functional requirements for the prototype were completed by the Subgroup in July 1987, and database coding by D-223 in PC Focus began in August. The prototype, completed in October 1987, was tested at the SC during the last week of that month. A demonstration was given in Washington at the Interior Building in mid-November. The prototype was enthusiastically received. The final user group meeting,

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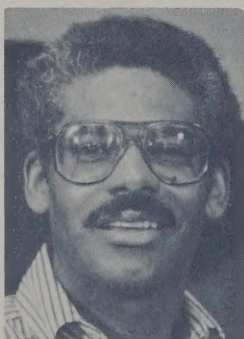
which focused on defining requirements, was held the week of February 22, 1988. One last meeting to coordinate the final specifications between SC and the Washington Office will be held in April 1988. The SC plans to provide for system design beginning in May 1988. The system, as currently visualized, will take at least 6 months to develop and should be ready for field testing in November or December 1988. Full implementation could begin in early 1989. The system should remain operational until mid-1990, when the ALMRS Bureauwide implementation replaces it.

Between now and implementation, Jim Ferguson, Virginia Crosby, and Kay Thomas of D-223 will be very busy designing, coding, and testing the first Bureauwide system to use an SQL-based software.

BUREAU RECRUITMENT COORDINATOR

Lee Allen has been selected as the Bureau Recruitment Coordinator, a position he will occupy at the SC. Lee will be a focal point for the Washington Office, SC, and several State Offices for developing and implementing recruitment strategies to achieve an integrated workforce. He will establish and maintain contact with major organizations and colleges that represent women and minorities to seek candidates for Bureau vacancies. Lee's efforts should increase management's opportunity to select from a more diversified group of qualified applicants. Lee sees this as a joint effort by EEO, Personnel, program managers, and supervisors, with everyone working together to achieve a diverse workforce.

Lee earned an M.A. in public administration from Drake University (where he was on the basketball team, which lost the NCAA finals to a ULCA team led by a fellow named Alcindor). He has a background in all phases of personnel management with IRS, WAPA, GSA, and BLM.



Lee Allen

REPORTS

Financial Reports IM No. DSC-99-79 establishes an annual procedure to verify quantities and media type for all BLM accounting and financial reports currently received by individual offices.

The Data Control Section, Division of Finance, produces and distributes these reports throughout the Bureau. Each month, 241 different end-of-month reports are produced in addition to other reports, listings, updates, etc.

Each year, field offices will receive a Report Information and Distribution Listing recapping all reports received by their offices. Any future changes in quantities and any additions or deletions of reporting products will be noted by the field offices. This review listing will then be returned to the Data Control Section (D-516A).

A handbook is being developed providing a description and sample of each report and a glossary of frequently used accounting and finance terminology.

This new procedure and handbook will incorporate an annual review of report distribution and documentation for all accounting and financial reports utilized by the Bureau.

FORWARD TO THE PAST

The above play on words from the film *Back to the Future* notes the direction BLM can go with a Land Information System and modeling approach to its Cultural Resource Management Program. Using advanced technology, we can move forward to unravel the secrets of the past.

From a land and resource management perspective, the Bureau needs to understand and maintain information on all its resources, including historical and archeological sites and artifacts. Obtaining data about Cultural sites is no small task.

Since BLM manages over 340 million acres, maintaining the data is also an imposing task. For the Bureau to turn to the most modern methods and technologies to accomplish this task is reasonable



Dan Martin

and inevitable.

Over several decades, archeologists have developed theories, techniques and modeling concepts that incorporate the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS). These concepts which focus on how societies have been distributed across our nation and how they used the landscape, have been gathered into a single volume entitled *Quantifying the Present and Predicting the Past: Theory, Method, and Application of Archaeological Predictive Modeling*.

This book, with significant input from Dan Martin, SC Branch of GIS Implementation, makes the point that the ideas presented can be implemented effectively only through use of GIS. The book provides BLM managers and staff with the background to apply these promising ideas in managing cultural resources. The project to develop the book was conceived by a BLM multi-state task force. It will be typeset by the Montana SO Printing and Graphics Staff for release in December.

Dan gives training and technical assistance on MOSS applications related to cultural resources. Prior to his work at the SC, he was program leader for cultural resources in the Montana and Colorado SO's. A not-so-tough assignment is a 2-week stint each year teaching intelligence classes to naval reservists at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Acronymymania

Match the acronym with the appropriate statement. The first correct entry after April 1 wins a one-year subscription to Center Scene. Second place gets a two-year subscription. Answers next month.

GABS	Dumb, Ed, Dumb!
RMAS	Gravy and Bacon Sandwich
MOSS	General Counsel to the Dentists of Britain
ORCA	I Hear I'm Civil Service
IRM/TAC	
	Iranian Royal Mounted
	Tactical Air Command
TGS	Major Obermeyer, Schutzstaffel
GCDB	My Clock Runs Slowly
DED	Oh, Romeo, Climb Away!
RDS	Rest in Fleece
GIS	Real Dip Stick
SLMS	Rhinoceroses May Attack Soon
IHICS	Society for the Limitation of Management Science
EROS	Trust Geological Survey
RIF	Angry Backwards
MCRS	Glossed in Space